



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER

ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN MINNESOTA OHIO WISCONSIN

February 25, 2000

The Honorable James L. Oberstar
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Oberstar:

I am writing to thank you for sponsoring H.R. 3700, the High-Speed Rail Investment Act of 2000.

As you know, high-speed passenger rail holds great promise as a fast, modern, convenient and comfortable transportation option for Midwest travel with less air pollution from cars and planes; thousands of new rail-related construction, commercial and manufacturing jobs; and economic development through a stronger, better-connected regional economy.

Minnesota is actively working to connect Minneapolis/St. Paul and Rochester with Madison, Milwaukee, and Chicago by high-speed rail. But just as with highways and airports, a strong federal investment in infrastructure is necessary.

H.R. 3700 meets this need, and Minnesota is situated extremely well to compete for these funds. While most other regions of the country have just begun planning for high-speed rail, the Midwest has completed its planning and is well into engineering and permitting on several corridors.

We have written to your colleagues throughout the Midwest asking them to join you in sponsoring this important bill. We look forward to continuing to work with you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Howard Learner

Howard Learner
Executive Director

35 EAST WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 1300 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601-2110

PHONE (312) 673-6500 FAX (312) 795-3730

www.elpc.org elpc@elpc.org